

SEPTEMBER 2004

SOUTHERN COMMAND

Department of Public Safety

Nevada Highway Patrol

SAFESTAT REPORT

Nevada Highway Patrol

Captain Ellison for Major Phil Tilt

Overview

In September 2004, the Southern Command percentage of filled authorized traffic sergeant and trooper positions remained unchanged. Although the Highway Patrol has filled a number of vacancies for the Southern Command, competing pay, staffing levels, and attrition continues to take its toll. With the increasing demands placed on personnel, budget requests have been submitted that reflect the necessary increases to support operations for Southern Nevada residents. During September there were two resignations from the administrative support staff.

Southern Command personnel handled 935 crashes as compared to 1019 crashes in September of 2003. This was a decrease of 8.2%. Crashes resulting in fatalities, increased by 50% when compared to September 2003. In actual numbers there were 6 fatal crashes in September 2004, as compared to 4 fatal crashes in September 2003. The largest reduction of crashes was a 12% decline in injury crashes. The Southern Command preliminary documentation shows a 22% decline in the overall number of commercial vehicle crashes. Of the 58 commercial crashes investigated this month, there were no fatalities; only 3 resulted in injuries, and the remaining 55 were property damage. Crashes involving commercial vehicles represented 6.2% of the total crashes handled by the Southern Command.

The Southern Command had a decrease in overall enforcement in September 2004. All reportable categories were down compared to last month and arrests were up compared to last year. DUI arrests increased 19.8% compared to last year. The Commercial Operations Section showed significant increases in hazardous moving and safety violation citations. There was also an increase in the number of commercial vehicle inspections completed. The number of commercial drivers placed out-of-service increased 190% due to their efforts.

The 800 MHz Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS) went on-line in the Southern Command on the 25th of August after a build out of the M/A-Com consoles was completed. On the 3rd of September at 0800 hours, the decision was made to revert to the 150 MHz DPS system, after debilitating problems between NHP dispatch and field units were determined to compromise officer safety. Currently, representatives of M/A-Com, NDOT, and Nevada Power Company are working to identify and mitigate problems that have been encountered.

Southern Command personnel continue to perform their duties faced with increasing work loads, pay disparity and reduced staffing levels. Troopers logged 20,855 contacts with the public in September. In addition to field enforcement and response to traffic crashes, these contacts included: motorist assists, debris removal, medical assists, allied agency assistance, and traffic hazard mitigation.

I commend the men and women of the Southern Command for their hard work and dedication.

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CRASH ANALYSIS AND OVERVIEW

	September 2004	September 2003	% Change	August 2004	% Change
Total crashes	935	1019	-8.2%	925	1.1%
Property crashes [including commercial vehicles]	690	741	-6.9%	642	7.5%
Injury crashes [including commercial vehicles]	239	274	-12.8%	275	-13.1%
Fatal crashes [including commercial vehicles]	6	4	50.0%	8	-25.0%
DUI crashes [DUI charged]	56	36	55.6%	69	-18.8%
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	7	4	75.0%	8	-12.5%
Total drivers killed without seatbelts	0	1	-100.0%	1	-100.0%
Total passengers killed without seatbelts	2	1	100.0%	3	-33.3%
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	1	1	0.0%	2	-50.0%
Total passengers killed with seatbelts	0	0	0.0%	1	-100.0%
Total persons killed - seatbelts not applicable	4	1	300.0%	1	300.0%
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	58	75	-22.7%	51	13.7%
Property crashes involving commercial vehicle	55	57	-3.5%	40	37.5%
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	3	17	-82.4%	11	-72.7%
Fatal crashes involving commercial vehicle	0	1	-100.0%	0	0.0%

CRASH ANALYSIS

- ✱ Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes 0.6%
- ✱ Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes 6.0%
- ✱ Percentage of persons killed *without* seatbelts to total persons killed 66.7%
- ✱ Percentage of Commercial Vehicle crashes to total crashes 6.2%
- ✱ Total crashes down 8.3% compared to last year.
- ✱ Commercial vehicle crashes down 48% from last year.
- ✱ Property damage crashes dropped 6.9% from last year.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, versus same period in previous fiscal year, versus previous reporting period]

	September 2004		September 2003	% Change		August 2004	% Change
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS							
DUI arrests from crashes ##	56		36	55.6%		69	-18.8%
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes ##	133		111	19.8%		154	-13.6%
Other arrests	768		822	-6.6%		1041	-26.2%
Total persons arrested (DUI included) ##	390		348	12.1%		472	-17.4%
Speed violations	2224		2855	-22.1%		2578	-13.7%
Hazardous moving violations	1454		2310	-37.1%		2521	-42.3%
Occupant restraint violations * ##	292		669	-56.4%		680	-57.1%
Total violations [above violations included]	7227		10220	-29.3%		10654	-32.2%
COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS							
Hazardous moving violations - citations/arrests	84		56	50.0%		29	189.7%
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	138		157	-12.1%		95	45.3%
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6]	771		606	27.2%		615	0.8%
Terminal inspections [level 5] CR only	N/A		N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Total safety violations -- citation	293		187	56.7%		217	35.0%
Total safety violations -- repair order	1128		1956	-42.3%		1357	-16.9%
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	57		124	-54.0%		90	-36.7%
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	87		30	190.0%		50	74.0%
Total school buses inspected	263		155	69.7%		337	-22.0%
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	36		20	80.0%		46	-21.7%
Total trucks weighed	81		257	-68.5%		79	2.5%
Total overweight citations	7		52	-86.5%		14	-50.0%
Total dyed fuel inspections	817		628	30.1%		467	74.9%
Total dyed fuel citations	0		0	0.0%		0	0.0%

*Seatbelt and Child Restraint ## Commercial Operations Activity Included

OPERATIONS ANALYSIS

- ✱ Average BAC 0.165%
- ✱ Average age of DUI arrests: 32 years
- ✱ 7% of DUI drivers arrested tested positive for controlled substance.
- ✱ 14% of drivers arrested had prior DUI convictions.
- ✱ Enforcement is down 29% from last year and 32% from last month.
- ✱ Commercial Operations, hazardous moving enforcement up 50% from last year and 189% from last month.
- ✱ Commercial vehicle inspections are up 27% from last year.

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	September 2004		September 2003	% Change		August 2004	% Change
COMMUNICATION CENTER							
Radio Transmissions	159036		150026	6.01%		130538	21.83%
CAD Incidents	20855		21998	-5.20%		19696	5.88%
Telephone Calls	37245		34339	8.46%		37425	-0.48%
Call Box Incidents [Las Vegas only]	191		N/A	N/A		222	-13.96%
FRONT OFFICE							
Accident Reports Processed	1068		1067	0.1%		1096	-2.6%
Arrest Reports Processed	505		424	19.1%		495	2.0%
Incident / Officer Reports Processed	27		28	-3.6%		37	-27.0%
Vehicle Impound Releases	162		128	26.6%		188	-13.8%
Visitors at Counter	851		811	4.9%		835	1.9%
Crash Reports Mailed Out	6798		5836	16.5%		6028	12.8%
COURT / WARRANT							
Warrants Received	514		477	7.8%		169	204.1%
Warrants Entered	954		511	86.7%		1071	-10.9%
Warrants Cleared	216		347	-37.8%		227	-4.8%
Warrants Validated	1595		6315	-74.7%		1805	-11.6%
Extradition / Transports	26		12	116.7%		15	73.3%
EVIDENCE							
New Cases Submitted	95		109	-12.8%		101	-5.9%
New Items Submitted	127		198	-35.9%		174	-27.0%
Items Disposed	79		16	393.8%		35	125.7%

Contract Services

- ✿ 12 Contracts requiring 415 work hours, billing \$21,756.85

Evidence

- ✿ Nevada Highway Patrol responsible for 91% of case submissions.
- ✿ Parole and Probation responsible for 8% of case submissions.
- ✿ Division of Investigation responsible for 1% of case submissions.

**Nevada Highway
Patrol**

Southern Command

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COMMENDATIONS

- ✿ 61 from the public to sworn
- ✿ 1 from the public to civilians
- ✿ 44 from command to sworn
- ✿ 4 awards from command to sworn

PERSONNEL

- ✿ 2 Resignations

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Projects:

- ✿ HEAT: Highway Patrol Educating Adults & Teens;
Camaro and Pickup used by field personnel at numerous public events.
- ✿ CHP/NHP direct enforcement “We Don’t Want Your Business”
continues with no fatal accidents on I-15 since program started on
September 1st.
- ✿ Special Olympics fund raisers:
 1. Soft ball match
 2. 10 K RUN
- ✿ Drivers Edge Training to pick up again in Oct.

“We cannot become what we need to be by remaining what we are.”

[Max Depree](#)